

FORT SILL CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM

Name _____ Center _____

Age of Children in care _____

Date _____

Time _____

Instructions for Observation

Each observation should be 1 hour. Review and familiarize yourself with this form prior to scheduled observation. You can fill out the form during the visit or take notes and complete the form later. Be sure to allow time to just observe without writing, in order to watch the teacher/child interaction. If certain information is not observed during the visit, you may ask questions of the center staff, Director, or Curriculum/Training Specialists.

Teacher-Child Relationships
and Interaction

Very much	Some what	No	Not observed
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Caregivers appear:

warm and friendly _____

calm and gentle _____

to enjoy being with preschoolers _____

to have respect for preschoolers _____

2. Caregivers use preschoolers' names when speaking to them and look directly at preschoolers.
3. Caregivers talk to the children during routines. Caregivers tell preschoolers what they are doing and what will happen next. throughout the day.

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Very Some No Not
much what observed

4. Caregivers offer suggestions, set limits and redirect children in a positive manner.

Give some examples of what you observed: _____

5. Caregivers talk to preschoolers in a quiet and calm voice.

6. Caregivers name people and things in the environment. There is much talking to everyone about what they are doing, seeing, feeling, tasting, hearing, or smelling.

7. Caregivers circulate among all the preschoolers, encouraging talking, guiding experiences, and giving individual attention.

8. Caregivers listen to preschoolers and allow time for children to talk. Caregivers help preschoolers to find the answers to their questions.

Examples of what was observed: _____

9. Caregivers act as a role model for children by getting along with one another, showing respect for each other, using good manners, as well as sharing classroom responsibilities.

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Very Some No Not
much what observed

10. Caregivers greet preschoolers as they arrive and help them say good-bye to parents.
11. Caregivers provide opportunities for the preschoolers to feel successful.
12. Caregivers encourage preschoolers to use their words to express feelings.

Examples of what was observed: _____

Indoor Environment

Very Some No Not
much what observed

1. There are no small or broken toys present that child could swallow or otherwise hurt themselves.
2. Toys are disinfected daily or more often if necessary
3. Equipment is safe and environment is free of sharp glass or other dangerous objects.
4. The room is divided into learning centers (i.e. blocks, gross motor, books, dramatic play, etc.).
5. A number of same toys and materials are provided to prevent problems with sharing materials.

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

- | | Very
<u>much</u> | Some
what | No | Not
<u>observed</u> |
|--|---------------------|--------------|----|------------------------|
| 6. There is a wide variety of materials, supplies, and equipment which accommodate different ages, abilities, and interests. | | | | |
| 7. Children's artwork is displayed at child's eye level. | | | | |
| 8. The environment has a warm, inviting, home-like atmosphere | | | | |

Outdoor Environment

- | | Very
<u>much</u> | Some
what | No | Not
<u>observed</u> |
|--|---------------------|--------------|----|------------------------|
| 1. Children are taken outside daily (weather permitting). | | | | |
| 2. Caregivers watch and play with children rather than passively supervising. | | | | |
| 3. There is a hard surface for wheel toys, balls, blocks, etc.. | | | | |
| 4. There is a grassy, soft area for sitting, playing running, etc.. | | | | |
| 5. A variety of activities and materials are offered outside (i.e. waterplay, easels, dramatic play props, stories, songs, games, etc.). | | | | |

Examples of activities/materials observed: _____

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Very Some No Not
much what observed

- 6 Open-ended materials are provided for children to use in their own creative ways (i.e. boxes, barrels rubber tires, milk crates etc.).
7. There is an outdoor storage area where equipment is stored and organized. Children can select and return equipment independently.

Health and Safety

Very Some No Not
much what observed

1. Caregivers wash their hands before eating with the children.
- 2 Caregivers ensure preschoolers wash their hands before eating, and after potty breaks.
3. Toys are disinfected daily and as needed throughout the day.

Program Information

Very Some No Not
much what observed

1. Activity plans include activities for individual preschoolers to support their stage of development.

Examples of activities observed: _____

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Very Some No Not
much what observed

2. Plenty of time is allowed for routines, such as eating, greetings, and getting children to sleep. These times are used to talk to children or give individual attention.
3. Preschoolers are encouraged to develop self-help skills as they are showing interest and readiness.
4. There is a variety of materials and toys available to encourage development and provide stimulation.

Manipulative toys (i.e. rattles shape sorters, blocks)
 What materials/toys did you observe? _____

Music (record players, toys that make noise, etc.)
 What materials/toys did you observe? _____

Dramatic play (dolls, pots and pans, toy telephone, etc.)
 What materials/toys did you observe? _____

Motor coordination (push/pull toys, wheel toys, rattles, stacking cubes)
 What materials/toys did you observe? _____

What other materials/toys were observed: _____

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Parent Information and Interaction

Very Some No Not
much what observed

1. A parent bulletin board is posted with program information, newsletters, child development information, etc.
2. Weekly activity plan and daily schedule are posted for parents
3. Caregivers greet parents as they drop off and pick up children.
4. Caregivers share information with parents about their child's daily activities and care.
5. Did you observe any other information about parent/caregiver relationships? _____

Daily Schedule

Very Some No Not
much what observed

The daily schedule:

1. Provides a balance of quiet and active experiences.
2. Allows an allotted time for free choice activities.
3. Includes:
 - small group activities
 - individual activities
 - teacher-directed activities
 - child -initiated activities
4. Allows time for routines such as handwashing, transitions, meals, snacks.

PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM - CONT

Very Some No Not
much what observed

5. Provides smooth transitions from one activity to another (children are not left waiting or lining up).
6. Allows for most activities with small groups of children or individually rather than the whole group at one time.
7. Allows children to freely select and choose materials.
8. Provides activities and materials which encourage children to learn through exploring, problem solving, inquiry, and experimenting.

Examples of activities observed: _____

9. Family-style dining is implemented. Children are involved in setting the table, serving, cleaning up. Caregivers join children in eating and conversation.
10. There are many activities and experiences available for children to use their senses: hearing, touching, tasting, seeing, and smelling.

List some examples of what you observed: _____

What is the caregiver/child ratio: _____